



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Gary D. Maynard
Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mark Vernarelli 410 339-5065
Judy West 410 799-3314

Change of Leadership Ceremony:

**Patricia Goins-Johnson to be Formally Installed
As Patuxent Institution Warden on Tuesday, April 22 at 11 a.m.**

27-year veteran replaces retired Warden John Wilt

TOWSON, MD (April 21, 2008)---Patricia Goins-Johnson will be installed as Warden of the Patuxent Institution, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services' (DPSCS) renowned treatment and remediation prison in Jessup, in a formal ceremony on Tuesday, April 22 at 11 a.m. Ms. Goins-Johnson, a veteran of 27 years in corrections, takes over from Warden John Wilt, who retired last fall.

Ms. Goins-Johnson, who has been at Patuxent since 2006, rose steadily through the ranks at the Division of Correction, from Correctional Officer at the old State Pen in 1981, to Director of Case Management for the Division of Correction, to Facility Administrator and Assistant Warden. Warden Goins-Johnson, who holds a Bachelor's Degree in Mental Health from Morgan State University, sits on the DPSCS Female Offender Committee, and is a committee chairperson in the Department's Prison Rape Elimination Act effort.

Patuxent, led by Director Randall Nero, Ph.D., is not a part of the Maryland Division of Correction. It is a separate institution featuring a unique graded-tier program and many specialized behavior modification, treatment, and remediation efforts. Patuxent has its own paroling authority (the Board of Review), and is also unique in that it houses both men (approximately 700) and women (approximately 90) in separate facilities on the same compound. It is recognized nationally for its successful treatment efforts, and for the remarkably low recidivism rate of its released offenders.

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Warden John Wilt leaves corrections after a distinguished career spanning more than 37 years, during which time he served in a wide variety of posts. Most recently, Mr. Wilt, a Shakespeare fan, was responsible for bringing the first professional theatre production of Shakespeare behind the walls of a Maryland maximum-security prison.

“Warden Goins-Johnson has vast experience in corrections and her dedication to enhancing the safety of all Marylanders will undoubtedly provide positive leadership,” said Dr. Randall Nero, Patuxent’s Director.

“I also want to sincerely thank Warden Wilt for his many years of outstanding public service.”

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